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Section I: AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing user preference and related user information, said method comprising:

storing the user preference information on a wireless storage device;

selectively transmitting said user preference information from said wireless storage device to a receiving device at a service facility by enabling selective user actuation of an on-off function switch on said wireless storage device; and

transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information; and

enabling direct user manual input to said wireless storage device using a real or virtual keypad function of user-selected indicia including alpha-numeric characters to modify said user preference information.

2. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said wireless storage device comprises a smart card including non-volatile, programmable memory means.

3. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 2 wherein said smart card further includes transceiver means selectively operable for transmitting and receiving information.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 3 wherein said smart card further includes display means for displaying user input, user preference information, and information received

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by said transceiver means.

5. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said smart card further includes processing means for processing information within said smart card.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said user-selected indicia are selected by said user from a keypad portion of said wireless storage device ~~claim 5 wherein said smart card further includes input means for enabling user input to said wireless storage device.~~

7. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises a lodging facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a lodging unit to said user.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said control system is further responsive to receiving said user preference information for implementing said user preferences for said lodging unit assigned to said user.

9. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said user preference information includes preferred temperature settings for said lodging unit.

10. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said user preference information includes preferred wake-up alarm settings for said lodging unit.

11. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7 and further including:

transmitting lodging unit information from said control system to said smart card, said smart card being selectively operable to

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use said lodging unit information to unlock said lodging unit assigned to said user.

12. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 4 wherein service facility comprises a lodging facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a lodging unit to said user, said control system being further operable for:

transmitting address information identifying said lodging unit assigned to said user to said smart card; and

displaying said address information on said display means of said smart card.

13. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12 wherein said smart card is enabled to use said address information to unlock said lodging unit assigned to said user.

14. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 13 wherein said lodging unit includes a unit receiving device at an entrance to said lodging unit, said unit receiving device being operable in response receiving said address information from said smart card for unlocking said lodging unit assigned to said user.

15. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said user preference information includes predetermined reservation information, said control system being selectively operable for automatically initiating user check-out processing in accordance with said predetermined reservation information.

16. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises a vehicle rental facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a rental vehicle to said

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user in accordance with said user preference information.

17. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises an airline facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning reserved services to said user in accordance with said user preference information.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said user preference information is stored in flash memory on said wireless storage device.

19. (Currently Amended) A processing system for processing user preference and related user information, said processing system comprising:

a wireless storage device for storing user preference information;

a receiving device at a service facility, said wireless storage device being selectively operable by enabling selective user actuation of an on-off function switch on said wireless storage device for transmitting said user preference information from said wireless storage device to said receiving device at said service facility; ~~and~~

means for transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information; and

means for enabling direct user manual input to said wireless storage device using a real or virtual keypad function of user-selected indicia including alpha-numeric characters to modify said user preference information.

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20. (Currently Amended) A programmed media item selectively operable ~~when read into memory of a computer system for generating program signals~~ to enable selective transmission of user preference and related user information to said programmed media item, ~~said program signals being further operable to enable programmed media item being at least as small as or smaller than a credit card~~, said programmed media item further comprising:

switching means, said switching means being selectively actuated by a user to enable said selective transmission of said user preference information to a control system at a service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information;

memory means within said programmed media item for storing said user preference information;

processing means coupled to said memory means for processing said user preference and related user information;

~~receiving user preference information from a wireless storage device;~~

~~transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information~~

input means on said programmed media item for enabling direct user manual input to said programmed media item, using a real or virtual keypad function, of user-selected indicia including alpha-numeric characters to modify said user preference information; and

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display means on said programmed media item for displaying menu and information screens to said user, said menu and information screens being useful in facilitating said processing of said user preference and related user information.